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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 709

of the subjugation of women, against ordaining women as priests. Yet the number of priests is diminishing. He acted very slowly and reluctantly on the sexual scandal in this city and state and country, where priests were sexually abusing little boys. So you fly the flag at half-staff. Well, if the head of some other religion dies, I want to see that happen.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But if they keep that flag flying at half-staff more than today, I'm going to offer a resolution to stop it, and we're going to discuss it. You inject religion in this Chamber every morning with your prayers. Now the whole state has been inject...has had religion injected into what it does. Well then let that one thing that I consider a redeeming virtue for John Paul II. He talked about social justice. Why aren't you all lauding social justice and talking about some of that on this floor, instead of cutting out the ones for whom social justice, the concept, was created? You do things for convenience. That flag at half-staff betokens hypocrisy. But I'm going to talk about it on this floor. And whoever doesn't like it can leave. But I'm going to be here. And as long as we have time to talk and I have time on the clock, brothers and sisters, I'm going to use it the way I think that I should. Thank you, Madam President.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Erdman, you're recognized to speak.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Madam President. Members of the Legislature, I expected the debate to be similar to what it is. And I can appreciate the concerns that people have, because frankly, if I knew, I guess, what some of my colleagues are claiming to know about what's going to happen, I would probably be opposed to it as well. And I would encourage individuals to read the language in the bill, and stop reading what it is that you're being sent. And here's my point. If you look at the language in the committee amendment, page 1, sub (3), Section 3, it's on the bottom of page 1: "establish priorities and ensure flexibility in the allocation of medical assistance benefits." Let's rewind, shall we? Let's rewind to LR 318, to study the